CLAIMS

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1. A crystallization method of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride

which comprises mixing a solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in a good solvent with an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to crystallize said N-carboxylic anhydride,

the solution of said N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent being added to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to therebyeffect crystallization while inhibiting an oil formation and scaling of said N-carboxylic anhydride.

- 2. The crystallization method according to Claim 1 wherein a temperature at addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is not higher than 60℃.
 - 3. The crystallization method according to Claim 2 wherein the temperature at addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is -30 to 50° C.
 - 4. The crystallization method according to Claim 3 wherein the temperature at addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is -20 to 45° C.
 - 5. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to $4\,$
- wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is a saturated

hydrocarbon of 5 to 12 carbon atoms represented by C_nH_{2n+2} or C_nH_{2n} , an unsaturated hydrocarbon of 5 to 12 carbon atoms represented by C_nH_{2n} or C_nH_{2n-2} or a mixed solvent thereof.

7. The crystallization method according to Claim 6 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is pentane, 2-methylpentane, normal hexane, isohexane, normal heptane, normal octane, cyclohexane, methylcyclohexane, ethylcyclohexane, propylcyclohexane or a mixed solvent thereof.

8. The crystallization method according to Claim 7 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is normal hexane, isohexane, normal heptane, methylcyclohexane or a mixed solvent thereof.

9. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 8

wherein the good solvent is a hydrogenated hydrocarbon, an ether, a nitrile, an ester, a ketone or a mixed solvent thereof.

10. The crystallization method according to Claim 9 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane,

1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane,

1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane,

tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, t-butyl methyl ether, acetonitrile, ethyl acetate, methyl acetate, propyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, butyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, pentyl acetate, methyl propionate, ethyl propionate, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone or a mixed solvent thereof.

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- 11. The crystallization method according to Claim 9 wherein the good solvent is a halogenated hydrocarbon, an ether, an ester or a mixed solvent thereof.
- 5 12. The crystallization method according to Claim 11 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane, 1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, t-butyl methyl ether, ethyl acetate, methyl acetate, propyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, butyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, pentyl acetate, methyl propionate, ethyl propionate or a mixed solvent thereof.
 - 13. The crystallization method according to Claim 11 wherein the good solvent is a halogenated hydrocarbon.
 - 14. The crystallization method according to Claim 13 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane,1,1-dichloroethane,1,2-dichloroethane,1,1,1-trichloroethane,1,1,2-trichloroethane or a mixed solvent thereof.
 - 15. The crystallization method according to Claim 14 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane.
 - 16. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 15

wherein the addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is carried out by a sequential addition.

17. The crystallization method according to Claim 16 wherein the sequential addition of the solution of
 N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine

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N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is carried out over not less than 1/4 of an hour.

18. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 17

wherein the addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is carried out in a condition that a crystal of said N-carboxylic anhydride is added to said aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent in advance.

19. The crystallization method according to Claim 18 wherein an amount of the crystal of

N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine
N-carboxylic anhydride to be added in advance is not more than
30 weight % based on the total amount of said N-carboxylic
anhydride in the solution in the good solvent to be subsequently
added.

The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 19

wherein the addition of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine
N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is carried out by adding a portion of said solution in the good solvent to said aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent in advance to thereby prepare a slurry in which said N-carboxylic anhydride is precipitated, followed by adding the rest of said solution in a good solvent to said slurry.

21. The crystallization method according to Claim 20 wherein an amount of the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent to be added in advance

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is not more than 30 weight % based on the total amount of the solution in the good solvent to be added.

22. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 21

wherein an amount of a precipitated crystal is increased by adjusting a liquid temperature to -30 to 25℃ following completion of the addition.

The crystal Nization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 22

wherein a weight ratio of the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent at completion of the addition is 0.001 to

The crystallization method according to Claim 23 wherein the weight ratio of the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent at completion of the addition is 0.003 to 1.

25. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 1 to 24

wherein the solution of

N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine

N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is

an NCA forming reaction solution obtained by reacting N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine with N, N'-carbonyldiimidazole or phosgene or

a solution obtained by subjecting the reaction solution to concentration or solvent exchange.

26. The crystallization method according to Claim 25 wherein an impurity or a coloring component as the byproduct of the NCA forming reaction is removed by using an adsorbent prior to the crystallization.

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The crystallization method according to Claim 25 or 26

wherein an NCA forming reaction solvent doubles as the good solvent for the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent.

28. A crystallization method of
10 N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine
N-carboxylic anhydride

which comprises adding an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to a solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanineN-carboxylicanhydrideinagoodsolventtocrystallize said N-carboxylic anhydride,

the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent being added sequentially over not less than 1/4 of an hour and at a temperature of not higher than 60° C to thereby inhibit an oil formation and scaling of said N-carboxylic anhydride.

29. The crystallization method according to Claim 28 wherein a temperature at addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine

- N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is -30 to 50° C.
 - 30. The crystallization method according to Claim 29 wherein the temperature at addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine
- N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is 0 to 45°C.
 - 31. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 30
- wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is a saturated

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hydrocarbon of 5 to 12 carbon atoms represented by C_nH_{2n+2} or C_nH_{2n} , an unsaturated hydrocarbon of 5 to 12 carbon atoms represented by C_nH_{2n} or C_nH_{2n-2} , or a mixed solvent thereof.

- 5 32. The crystallization method according to Claim 31 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is a saturated hydrocarbon of 5 to 12 carbon atoms represented by C_nH_{2n+2} or C_nH_{2n} , or a mixed solvent thereof.
- 33. The crystallization method according to Claim 32 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is pentane, 2-methylpentane, normal hexane, isohexane, normal heptane, normal octane, isooctane, normal decane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, methylcyclohexane, ethylcyclohexane, propylcyclohexane or a mixed solvent thereof.
 - 34. The crystallization method according to Claim 33 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is normal hexane, isohexane, normal heptane, isooctane, methylcyclohexane or a mixed solvent thereof.
 - 35. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 34

wherein the good solvent is a halogenated hydrocarbon, an ether, a nitrile, an ester, a ketone or a mixed solvent thereof.

- 36. The crystallization method according to Claim 35 wherein the good solvent is a halogenated hydrocarbon, an ether, an ester or a mixed solvent thereof.
 - 37. The crystallization method according to Claim 36 wherein the good solvent is a halogenated hydrocarbon.
- 38. The crystallization method according to Claim 35 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane,

1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane,
1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane,
tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, t-butyl methyl ether,
acetonitrile, ethyl acetate, methyl acetate, propyl acetate,
isopropyl acetate, butyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, pentyl
acetate, methyl propionate, ethyl propionate, acetone, methyl
ethyl ketone or a mixed solvent thereof.

- 39. The crystallization method according to Claim 36
 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane,
 1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane,
 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane,
 tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, t-butyl methyl ether, ethyl
 acetate, methyl acetate, propyl acetate, isopropyl acetate,
 butyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, pentyl acetate, methyl
 propionate, ethyl propionate or a mixed solvent thereof.
- 40. The crystallization method according to Claim 37 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane,
 20 1,1-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane,
 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane or a mixed solvent thereof.
- 41. The crystallization method according to Claim 40 wherein the good solvent is dichloromethane.
 - 42. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 41

wherein the addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is carried out under stirring with a stirring force corresponding to a stirring power requirement of not less than 0.1 kW/m 3 .

43. The crystallization method according to Claim 42

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wherein the addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is carried out under stirring with the stirring force corresponding to the stirring power requirement of not less than 0.3 kW/m 3 .

44. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 43

wherein the addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is carried out by preparing a slurry of said N-carboxylic anhydride in advance and adding the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent sequentially to said slurry.

45. The crystallization method according to Claim 44 wherein a suspension amount of the slurry of said N-carboxylic anhydride to be prepared in advance is not more than 30 weight % based on the total amount of said N-carboxylic anhydride at completion of the crystallization.

46. The crystallization method according to Claim 44 or

wherein the preparation of the slurry is carried out by sequential addition of the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent to the solution of said N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent and/or by addition of a crystal of said N-carboxylic anhydride to the solution of said N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent.

47. The crystallization method according to Claim 46 wherein the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is added to the solution in the good solvent in such a proportion that a weight ratio of the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is 0.1 to 10 at a preliminary crystallization.

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48 The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 47

wherein the weight ratio of the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is 0.001 to 1 at completion of the addition.

- 49. The crystallization method according to Claim 48 wherein the weight ratio of the good solvent to the aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is 0.003 to 0.8 at completion of the addition.
- 50. The crystallization method according to any one of Claims 28 to 49

wherein an amount of a precipitated crystal is increased by adjusting a liquid temperature to -30 to 25° C following completion of the addition.

51. The crystall ration method according to any one of Claims 28 to 50

wherein the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent is

an NCA forming reaction solution obtained by reacting N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine with N,N'-carbonyldiimidazole or phosgene or

a solution obtained by subjecting the reaction solution to concentration or solvent exchange.

- 52. The crystallization method according to Claim 51 wherein an impurity or a coloring component as a byproduct of the NCA forming reaction is removed by using an adsorbent prior to the crystallization.
 - 53. The crystallization method according to Claim 51 or

Wherein an NCA forming reaction solvent doubles as the good solvent for the solution of N-(1(S)-ethoxycarbonyl-3-phenylpropyl)-L-alanine N-carboxylic anhydride in the good solvent.